CLAIMS

1. An electrical coupling bar (1) including:
   - an electrically insulating support (1a) exhibiting two parallel grooves (2),
   - a metallic strip (3) engaged in each groove (2), the metallic strips (3) projecting out of the grooves and exhibiting interior faces (3a) opposite one another, delimiting between them a free engagement space (4) for a connecting device, said free engagement space (4) being devoid of any element or of any part or extremity of said support (1a),
   - and protecting means covering the other faces (3b, 3c, 3d) of the metallic strips (3).

2. Electrical coupling bar (1) according to Claim 1, characterised in that the protecting means and the support (1a) are produced from a single piece.

3. Electrical coupling bar (1) according to Claim 2, characterised in that the metallic strips (3) are inserted into the support (1a).

4. Electrical coupling bar according to Claim 2, characterised in that the support (1a) is obtained by moulding of the metallic strips (3) from a casting.

5. Electrical coupling bar (1) according to Claim 4, characterised in that the support (1a) is realised with a material having a shape and a rigidity enabling the metallic strips (3) to be immobilised.

6. Electrical coupling bar (1) according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the support (1a) includes a fastening component (1d).

7. Electrical coupling bar (1) according to Claim 6, characterised in that the fastening component (1d) is a projecting part approximately perpendicular to the interior faces (3a) of the metallic strips (3).

8. An electrical cabinet (6) equipped with at least one electrical coupling bar (1) according to any one of Claims 1 to 7.

9. A connecting device (7) intended to be engaged in a coupling bar (1) which exhibits two metallic strips (3) mounted in a support (1a) and delimiting between them a free engagement space (4), said device including a casing (8), realised with an electrically insulating material and forming a housing (9) provided with two input terminals (16, 17) for the connection of an electrical appliance (10) of the circuit-breaker type, two connecting lugs (11, 12) projecting out of the casing (8), ensuring mechanical maintenance and the electrical link with the metallic strips (3) after their introduction into the free engagement space (4), the electrical link being realised with metallic parts (13) joined respectively onto a face of one connecting lug (11) and onto an opposite face of the other connecting lug (12), each connecting lug (11, 12) being capable of establishing an electrical link with the corresponding metallic strip (3), the casing (8) being also provided with two power-supply terminals (14, 15) integrating the electrical appliance (10) into the power-supply circuit when a load or another appliance is connected to the power-supply terminals (14, 15).

10. Connecting device (7) according to Claim 9, characterised in that the connecting lugs (11, 12)

extend in an offset extension plane which is parallel to a median extension plane (P) of the housing (9).

11. Connecting device (7) according to Claim 9 or 10, characterised in that it includes a means for indicating the energising of the metallic strips (3).

12. Connecting device according to any one of Claims 9 to 11, characterised in that it includes a clip (28) for maintenance on the coupling bar (1).

13. A protecting device comprising a connecting device (7) according to one of Claims 9 to 12 and an electrical circuit-breaker.